

REMARKS

Claim 1 has been amended to recite “the antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide and/or titanium oxide are 40 to 90% by mass of the total amount of the ionizing radiation curable compound and the metal oxides.” Support for this recitation can be found on page 14, line 26 to page 15, line 3 of the specification.

Claim 1 has also been amended to recite “the antimony doped tin oxide in the high refractive index layer is 20 to 90% by mass of the total amount of antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide an/or titanium oxide.” Support for this recitation can be found on page 14, lines 16-19 of the specification.

Upon entry of the Amendment, claims 1-4 will be pending in the application.

The Examiner has objected to claim 1. In particular, the Examiner asserts that the phrase “1.65t” on line 5 in claim 1 should read “1.65 to”. Additionally, the Examiner asserts that the thickness of “30-16 nm” should read “30 to 160 nm.”

Applicants have amended claim 1 in accordance with the Examiner’s suggestions. Accordingly, Applicants respect that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the objection.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1-24 of U.S. Patent No. 6,773,835 to Shoshi et al. (“Shoshi”) in view of Kumazawa et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,472,798 (“Kumazawa”).

While Applicants respectfully submit that the present invention is not obvious over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,773,835, to expedite allowance of the present Application,

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Applicants are submitting herewith a terminal disclaimer to obviate the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over the claims of U.S. Patent No. 6,773,835.

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw the obviousness-type double patenting rejection over Shoshi in view of Kumazawa.

Claims 1-4 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over Nishida et al., U.S. Publication No. 2002/0127408 (“Nishida”), in view of Kumazawa et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,472,798 (“Kumazawa”).

Applicants’ claim 1 recites:

(B) a high refractive index layer composed of a cured product of an ionizing-radiation-curable compound and containing antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide and/or titanium oxide, as metal oxides, which has a reflective index in the range of 1.65 to 1.90 and the thickness of 30 to 160 nm and wherein the antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide and/or titanium oxide in the high refractive index layer is 40 to 90% by mass of the total amount of the ionizing radiation curable compound and the metal oxides and wherein the antimony doped tin oxide in the high refractive index layer is 20 to 90% by mass of the total amount of antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide an/or titanium oxide....

Applicants submit that neither Nishida nor Kumazawa disclose or suggest a high refractive index layer “wherein the antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide and/or titanium oxide in the high refractive index layer is 40 to 90% by mass of the total amount of the ionizing radiation curable compound and the metal oxides” or “wherein the antimony doped tin oxide in the high refractive index layer is 20 to 90% by mass of the total amount of antimony-doped tin oxide plus zirconium oxide an/or titanium oxide....”

Applicants submit that the claimed content of the antimony-doped tin oxide (ATO) improves the adhesion between the high refractive index layer and the low refractive layer and

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increases the total light transmittance. Therefore, the claimed light transmitting hard coat film for use in touch panels can produce transmitted light of blue color and can provide high total light transmittance because reflection of light is suppressed due to the effect of optical interference.

Applicants submit when ITO is used in place of ATO, as in Nishida, the adhesion is inferior. Therefore, Applicants submit that the performance of the hard coat layer of Nishida is inferior as compared with the light transmitting hard coat film of the present invention.

In view of the foregoing, Applicants submit that the presently claimed invention would not be obvious over the combination of Nishida and Kumazawa. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

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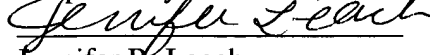
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Respectfully submitted,



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